

Hewitt, Robert
[Ardsley on Hudson, NY]

n.d. + January 24, 1912

Uxbridge on Hudson.

My dear Mr Wood,

As I am now slowly convalescing, and hope to go South, in about ten days, I can only take up the subject, of the illustration, of "Metalline Lincolniana" on my return & when I can meet you.

I hope to be in Boston later, & with sufficient time, to go over the subject with you. I have taken over three years time, off and on, to properly prepare

the text, as it started
in my mind, first as a
Catalogue of Lincoln
Press, but has grown
into a History, as it
shows both the Political
& Historical side, and ^{will} make
when published, a complete
page of what I regard
as a Book, that will find
its place on every shelf
where Lincoln books are
found, & you can naturally
see, that means a great
number. Do you know, there
are over a thousand Collectors

of Lincoln literature in
the U.S. Known to dealers
in Books, & It was a revelation
to me. My collection since
my illness, has not been
touched, it is in the
Metropolitan Museum of
Art, & attracts a general
interest, especially from the
poorer classes, who seem
drawn to it. I am under
a partial promise, to
exhibit it in Chicago, & at
your Museum, but the labor
attending it. I do not feel
like assuming. It numbers
over 500 dies, which means
an illustration of some

magnitude - I will not
take up the method, as
from observation. I am
convinced, no one is
equal to you, in either
art feeling, or experience,
so that side, is settled
in my mind - To produce
the casts, is another
question, & I will go into
this with you, & perhaps
see evolved, a process of
taking an impression, that
will be both novel, &
most simple, & expect to have
from Europe, a preparation
that has never before
been used, it is a new

2/ ingredient, and when
placed in a holder, ^{just} the
size of the plate to be
published, admits of an
impression, without the
least tarnish to the most
delicate proof coins or ~~plaster~~
or scratch, from this one
sheet, casts of plaster can
be made, thus giving to
you, a material to color
or manipulate in a
satisfactory way. If all
this comes out, I want
you alone, to profit from
it, as I neither have
the desire, or necessity
to take up any new

industry, such as this
might possibly be, it
naturally belongs to your
profession of artistic
work - When you go to
the museum, & look over
the collection, you can
~~naturally~~ form your own
ideas; & I want you to
know some of my friends
there, who are not in
the class of Fossils, such
as you might find in
the Numismatic Socy. As a
proof, they could have
had my Lincoln collection
but are so slow, that when

We now enjoy, & study it,
not 5. would ever see it there
in this building. You never
sent me a list of the
Lincoln cheds. other than the
scrabbles ^{of the Bradford series} - I would like it
for purpose of checking
of my manuscript of about
125 pages it has ~~been~~ been
boiled down from over
1,000 pages which shows
you, what my Lucy, has
had to do in revision, &
is not yet complete -
Will I have written you
a long note, & said nothing
about your poems. which
when revised, will be

carefully examined. On
my return, will advise
you. When I will expect
to see you, and in the
mean time, I appreciate
highly, your kindly interest
in the subject matter,
& only hope later on, it
may prove to your business
interests, to take it into
a form, that will produce
Books. Sorry to trouble you
with such a long letter, but
absence from a Secretary, &
writing, when one is laid up
is not easy. - Believe me
of my truly,
R. Hewitt

Ans

Wdsley on Hudson

Jan 24/912

Mr. Kossburn Wood,
Dear Sir

I am soon thinking
of having the Lincoln Pictures
as shown in the Collection, now
at Metropolitan Museum, illustrated
the text of the Book, is about
complete, and in order to
finish it, it is necessary
to get some idea, as to
how & at what cost the
work should be done. If
you care to give this your
business attention, I shall
be pleased to hear from
you & to know what

you consider the best process
to carry it out. For over
a month I have been
laid up & am now
slowly convalescing. I
should like to feel that
the estimate of time was
one that could be carried
out. - With kind regards

Yours very truly
A. Hewitt